Mrs. H. W. Sinclair (M) 6-30
3335 Goldsmith St.

CALIFORNIA GARDEN

IN THIS NUMBER

PREMIUM LIST,
TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW
APRIL 26 AND 27

IRIS AND IRIS GARDENS
By Gertrude Dale Evans

APRIL, 1930 TEN CENTS

DAHLIA BULBS!!

It's time now to think of that wonderful garden you're to have this spring—time to think of selecting your tubers. Come to the main store, 913 Seventh Street.

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37. Polar Bear, Decorative, White..... .50
38. Primrose Dame, Cactus, Yellow and Pink... .35
39. Princess Pat, Cactus, Rose and Buff..... .50
40. Rising Beauty, Cactus, Scarlet and Gold.... 1.00
41. Robert Treat, Decorative, Rose Pink..... 1.00
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The magazine—"California Garden," a practical local guide published monthly for 20 years. Subscription $1.00 per year.

The official organ of the San Diego Floral Association, now in its 21st year of continuous activities.

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The California Garden

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Vol. 21 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, APRIL., 1930 No. 10

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SPRING SHOW

Roses and Other Flowers

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, APRIL 26 AND 27, 1930

MAIN PLAZA, BALBOA PARK

Opening Saturday, 2 P. M.

Admission, 25 Cents

SECTION "A"—AMATEURS

* 1. Best Collection of Roses—not less than 12 varieties and not more than 3 blooms of a kind. (Association Cup.)
* 2. Best 6 varieties of Roses—not more than 3 blooms of a kind. (American Rose Society Silver Medal.)
* 3. Best Collection of Roses—not more than 1 bloom of a kind. (American Rose Society Bronze Medal.)
4. Best 3 White Roses, one variety.
5. Best 3 Red Roses, one variety.
6. Best 3 Yellow Roses, one variety.
7. Best 3 Yellow Shaded Roses, one variety.
8. Best 3 Pink Roses, one variety.
9. Best 3 Pink Shaded Roses, one variety.
10. Best 3 Flame Colored Roses, one variety (example, Mme. Herriott).
11. Best 1 White Rose.
12. Best 1 Pink Rose.
13. Best 1 Yellow Rose.
14. Best 1 Red Rose.
15. Best 1 Crimson Rose.
16. Best 1 Pink Shaded Rose.
17. Best 1 Yellow Shaded Rose.
18. Best 1 Flame Colored Rose.
19. Best Single Rose (example, Isobel or Irish Elegance).
20. Best Display of Polyantha or Baby Roses.
21. Best Display of Climbing Roses.
* 22. Best Rose Introduced in 1929 (Bronze Medal).
23. Best 6 Red Roses, one variety.
24. Best 6 White Roses, one variety.
25. Best 6 Yellow Roses, one variety.
26. Best 6 Yellow Shaded Roses, one variety.
27. Best 6 Pink Roses, one variety.
28. Best 6 Pink Shaded Roses, one variety.
29. Best 6 Flame Colored Roses, one variety.
* 30. Best Arranged Vase, Bowl or Dish of Roses.
* 31. Best Arranged Basket of Roses.
* BEST ROSE IN THE SHOW (San Diego Floral Association, Silver Medal).
32. Collection of 20 or more German Iris.
33. Collection of 10 or more German Iris.
34. Collection of 5 or more German Iris.
35. Collection of 3 or more German Iris.
36. Specimen Stalk, Pink Lavender.
37. Specimen Stalk, Blue Lavender.
38. Specimen Stalk, White Lavender.
39. Specimen Stalk, Plicatas.
40. Specimen Stalk, Pink.
41. Specimen Stalk, Yellow.
42. Specimen Stalk, Red-Purple.
43. Specimen Stalk, Blue-Purple.
44. Specimen Stalk, Blends.
45. Specimen Stalk, Yellow and Brown.
46. Specimen Stalk, Red and White Bicolors.
47. Collection of Iris not Bearded.
48. Collection of Bulbous Iris.
49. Vase or Basket of Beardless Iris.
50. Vase or Basket of German Iris with other flowers.
51. Vase or Basket of German Iris.
* 52. Iris Sweepstakes. (Trophy. See rules.)

SECTION "C"—AMATEURS

Sweet Peas

* 53. Best Collection Sweet Peas, 10 stems each.
54. Best Vase White Sweet Peas.
55. Best Vase Light Pink Sweet Peas.
56. Best Vase Dark Pink Sweet Peas.
57. Best Vase Red Sweet Peas.
58. Best Vase Lavender Sweet Peas.
59. Best Vase Blue Sweet Peas.
60. Best Vase Purple Sweet Peas.
61. Best Vase Salmon Sweet Peas .
62. Best Vase Maroon Sweet Peas.
63. Best Vase Bicolor Sweet Peas. (In Classes 31 to 40 inclusive, 15 stems each.)
64. Best Arranged Basket of Sweet Peas.
65. Best Arranged Bowl of Sweet Peas.
* SWEET PEA SWEEPSTAKES (S. D. Floral Association, Bronze Medal.)

SECTION "D"—MISCELLANEOUS—AMATEURS

* 66. Best Arranged Basket of Flowers other than Roses, Wild Flowers or Sweet Peas.
67. Best Arranged Basket of Wild Flowers.
* 68. Best Arrangement of Flowers in Vase, Bowl or Dish.
69. Best Flowering Plant for the house.
70. Best Individual Specimen Decorative Plant.
71. Best Cut Specimen Flowering Vine.
72. Best Display of Bulb Flowers.

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73. Best Display of Gladiolus.
74. Best Display of Pansies.
* 75. Best Display of Violas.
* Sweepstakes, classes 69 to 75 inclusive.
76. Best Display of Cinerarias.
77. Best Display of Potted Plants (Example, Geraniums, Pelargoniums, Fuchsias, Genistas, Hydrangeas, and Foliage Plants).
78. Best Display of Delphiniums.
79. Best Display of Stocks.
80. Best Display of Snapdragons.
81. Best Display of Calendulas.
82. Best Display of Larkspurs.
83. Best Display of Fuchsias.
84. Best Display any other Flowers not otherwise classified.
85. Best Display of Grasses.
* Sweepstakes, Classes 78 to 85 inclusive.
* 86. Best Collection of Succulents and Cacti, suitably arranged.
87. Best Collection of Rock Garden Plants, suitably arranged.
* 88. Best Collection of Begonias, Ferns and other Lathhouse subjects.
89. Best 1 Specimen Fibrous Begonia.
90. Best 1 Specimen Rex Begonia grown in pot or other receptacle.
91. Best Specimen Maidenhair Fern.
* 92. Best Dining Table Decoration.
* 93. Best Japanese Arrangement of Flowers
* 94. Best Display from a 50 foot or less lot.
* 95. Best Display from a Private Garden larger than 50 feet.
* 96. Best Display from Civic, State or National Institution.
in Bowl or Dish.
* 97. Best Display from a School Garden in city.
* 98. Best Display from a School Garden in county outside of city.

SECTION "E"—PROFESSIONALS
(Entries by Nurserymen)

* 99. Best Display of Cut Roses.
100. Best Collection of Rose Bushes in Bloom.
*101. Best General Display of Cut Flowers other than Roses.
102. Best Display of Sweet Peas (Separate Varieties).
*103. Best General Display of Shrubs and Plants.
104. Best Display of Everlasting Flowers.
105. Best Display of Bulb Flowers.
106. Best Exhibit of Gladiolus.

(Entries by Florists)
SECTION "L"

107. Best Arranged Basket, Bowl or Vase of Cut Flowers.
108. Best Table Decoration.
*Classes in which Trophies are offered. Handsome ribbons for first and second in all classes.

SHOW RULES

1. ALL EXHIBITS MUST BE IN PLACE AND PROPERLY ENTERED BY 11 A. M. OF FIRST DAY OF THE SHOW SO THAT JUDGING MAY BE COMPLETED AND AWARDS MADE BEFORE OPENING. NO EXHIBITOR WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE PRESENT WHILE JUDGING IS GOING ON.
2. All entries must be in the hands of the Clerks by 9 A. M. of the first day of Show. Clerks will be on duty at 7:30 A. M. and entries will be received at any time between these hours.
3. All exhibits must be labeled with the correct names of the plants on white cards 2x3 inches, which will be furnished without charge. Names of exhibitors in competitive classes positively must not appear on exhibits until after awards have been made. (Entries in Class 56 excepted from this rule.)
4. Exhibits are, from the commencement of the Show, under the jurisdiction of the Show officials and no exhibit shall be removed before the close of the Show without the authority of the official in charge.
5. Entries will not be considered by the judges unless meritorious.
6. Exhibits can be entered in one class only.
7. The committee on awards is authorized to give suitable award for any meritorious exhibit not included in the Classes named.
8. Vases are loaned without charge for cut flowers in the competitive classes.
9. All pot plants must have been in the possession of the exhibitor at least three months; all other flowers and plants except collected wild flowers must have been grown by the exhibitor, except where used for table decorations.
10. Dining table decoration will be judged wholly on the merits of the flowers and their arrangement. Simple accessories are recommended.
11. In class where a given number of blooms is specified any excess or deficiency of count shall constitute cause for disqualification.
12. SWEET PEAS will be judged by length of stem, color, size, substance and number of flowers on stems.
13. ROSES will be judged in accordance with the standards of the American Rose Society.
14. IRIS sweepstakes trophy to be awarded on following points: all collections receive 5 points for first; 3 points for second; 2 points for third. All other Iris classes count on basis of 3-2-1.
15. A Display is an arrangement for quality and artistic effect.
16. A Collection is a variety of meritorious kinds brought together.

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17. All Vases, baskets, bowls, etc., belonging to exhibitors must be called for Monday morning not later than 11:00 o'clock.

18. The Floral Association invites exhibits, however small, if meritorious. Exhibits of single specimens of flowers or plants will be duly considered. Special reservations of space may be made by telephone with Secretary Miss Winifred Sinclair, Bayview 0202. Where exhibits are to be of any considerable size it is advisable to make reservations in advance.

NO FEE IS CHARGED FOR MAKING ENTRIES IN THIS SHOW

FLOWER SHOW CHAIRMEN

Roses: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Callender, National 171-W.

Sweet Peas: Mr. and Mrs. H. Gibbs, Hillcrest 1550-J.

Baskets and Bowls: Mrs. Fred Scripps and Mrs. Robt. Morrison, Hillcrest 0809-W.

Iris: Mrs. Paul Tuttle, Main 4374.

Lathhouse Subjects: Mrs. Oscar Quarforth, Hillcrest 1550-J.

Bulbous Flowers, Pansies, Violas. Potted Plants: Mr. and Mrs. Middlebrook, Hillcrest 7100.

Delphiniums, Stocks, Snapdragons, Calendulas, Larkspurs, and Unclassified Flowers: Mrs. W. H. Hutchings, Hillcrest 3912-J.

Succulents, Cacti and Rock Garden Plants: Hillcrest 1550-J.

Display from 50-foot lot and lot larger than 50 feet: Mrs. George Gardner, Bayview 0346-M.

Dining Table Decorations: Mrs. E. W. S. Delacour, Hillcrest 5061, Main 3594.

Japanese Arrangement: Mrs. W. H. Wilson, Hillcrest 4026-J.

City School Gardens: Carol De Wilton Scott, Franklin 4449.

County School Gardens: William Wright.

Professional Exhibits: Walter Birch, Main 0842.

Floor Plans and Judges: John G. Morley. Main 0605.

Nomenclature: Miss Mary Matthews and C. I. Jerabek.

Gate Receipts: John Bakkers.

Clerking: Mrs. Elsie Case.

General Chairman: Mrs. Mary A. Greer, Hillcrest 1550-J.

General Secretary and Information: Miss Winifred Sinclair, Bayview 0202.

LANDSCAPE ADORNMENT
(Continued)

Before this series of articles pertaining to the beautification of the Gardens of this Southland is concluded, there will be many surprises for the plant enthusiast who has a consuming desire for greater variety of plant life in his garden.

It is amazing how limited is the list of plants in a land where a greater variety may be grown in the open, than any where else in these United States; Florida not excepted. To be sure in that land of milder winter temperature and more humid atmosphere things grow that will not lend themselves to cultivation in our arid climate, nevertheless I repeat we have a greater variety of plants than may be found in South Florida. It may be news to many readers of these lines to know citrus fruits, except a hardy Satsuma species, cannot be grown in North Florida.

The subject for discussion at this time is Bomarea oligantha, which, under favorable conditions is one of the most beautiful vines imaginable when in full bloom. A native of Peru, where climatic conditions are said to be very similar to that of our own, it is surprising that only one specimen may be found in all this Southland. This writer has traveled over this country from coast to coast, and from the lakes on the north, to the Gulf on the south, nosed into Botanic Gardens large and small; Conservatories for plants of every description, and never met with but one specimen which is growing in a garden near Oxnard.

Readers of these lines who have access to Nicholson's Dictionary of Gardening will find it illustrated; the formation of flowers and of their clusters, but not of their gorgeous coloring.

The specimen under discussion grows in a forest of trees, protected from full sunlight, and that too at an alevation of 10 feet above the sea. Moreover it is liberally fed, and when in bloom, watered copiously. Such conditions must be created either with a good lathhouse or some such contrivance where forest trees do not grow and if success crowns the efforts, then the laborer will be paid in one of the most gloriously beautiful sights imaginable.

Good drainage is an absolute essential in the cultivation of this subject. Indeed, the same may be said of the majority of trees and plants, except Aquatics, of course.

It seeds freely, which grow readily, and are not difficult to manage. Since nurserymen do not seem inclined to use the columns of this Journal to advertise their wares, it seems imperative to acquaint its readers as to where they may find the subject written about, by this free advertising. Beverly Hills Nursery have Bomarea oligantha for sale.—P. D. B.

REPORT OF MEETING OF FLORAL ASSOCIATION

The meeting opened with a report of the committee for the flower show to be held in April. Announcement was also made that there will be another garden contest this year and everyone is invited to enter his garden.

Mrs. Martha Daly read a paper on chrysanthemum growing which appears elsewhere in this issue. The rest of the evening was taken up by an illustrated talk on a trip around the world by Mrs. Armand Jessop which was intensely interesting and absorbing. Mrs. Jessop regretted that she had not taken more pictures of gardens as she said the cities they most wanted to linger in were those that had beautiful gardens. She said, "Make San Diego a city of beautiful gardens and visitors will throng here as they never would if you have smoke stacks." And the audience responded with applause.

Mrs. Jessop showed us pictures of so many interesting things that she made us benighted stay-at-homes long to embark on the next boat. Japan in winter with boys on skis, the red lacquer bridge with 40 coats of lacquer; the sacred and very tame deer; a river with large cement pile stepping stones; unique cemetery with monuments as close as oats on a head of grain; house boats in China which the families never leave; the garden that was the original of the willow ware china pattern; water buffalo pulling carts; a river trip along beautiful banks and past great waterfalls in Manila; the Taj from all angles with surrounding formal gardens and its reflection lagoon; the Jasmine tower of Abkars; the Jungfrau; flowers in Switzerland; quaint market scenes in Middleburg, Holland; the famous Robinson garden in England where California ceanothus, poppies, etc., grow; beagle hounds herded by two men on horses, diamond mines Rhodesia; Biera where you own your own street car, Egypt 120 in the shade at 7 a. m.; Pretoria diamond mine with the biggest man-made hole 6000 feet in depth; the wide, deep, swift Zambesi River; long-legged seven-feet men on the Nile, and dozens of other things. These views were interspersed with pertinent remarks about them and made even more interesting thus. It was too late for Miss Sessions to talk of flowers which was too bad as Mr. Jarebek had brought many lovely wild flowers, a list of which follows:

Isomeris arborea (Bladder pod); Viola pedunculata (Pansy violet); Sidalcea malvaeflora (checkerbloom); Dodecatheon clevelandi (Shooting Star); Solanum Xanti (Blue nightshade); Phacelia distans (Fancy Phacelia—Wild Heliotrope); Nemophila maculata (Baby Blue Eyes); Myosotis silvatica (Forget-me-not); Lupinus succulentus (Bluebonnett); Lupinus chamissonis (Beach lupine); Ceanothus cyaneus (Blue lilac); Mentzelia aurea (Blazing Star); Layia elegans (Tidy-tips); Brodicea capitata (California Hyacinth); Mirabilis californica (Four o'clock); Montia perfotiata (Miner's lettuce); Eschscholtzia californica (California poppy); Dentaria california (Bilkmaid); Spirea Van Houetta; Spirea Prunifolia var. Spirea flora pleno; Spirea Thumbergia.

Chrysanthemum cuttings were given away and plants in pots sold two for a quarter and were numbered, the lucky one getting the bird cage won by the Iris section at the Encinitas Flower Show. Fortunately it was won by Mrs. Keston who possesses two birds, one good and one shabby cage.

Coffee, cheese bits and cake made an end to a long and interesting evening.—W. K. B.

AS SPRINGTIME COMES

It may not be according to precedent in California Garden, but I risk this little tribute to one of our old flower lovers who has gone on this past year, but whose memory we know must be especially bright just about this time of the year, to his many friends.

How full of enthusiasm Chauncey Vedder used to be, and how he did pep us up with his "finds" in new catalogues, his proffering of tiny packets of all sorts of seeds from begonias to watermelons; his "extras" of many kinds of rare seedlings. His calls were always tonics, but along about this time of the year they were positive miracle workers, for in his quiet but droll way he presented a living demonstration of true garden happiness, enthusiasm and generosity.

And how many folks know of, or raise begonias that he tenderly grew from his own seedlings? Scores of San Diegans who are interested in begonias, especially, must be growing his "Vedderi," "Annabelle" and others. His last new seedling was placed in our hands a few days before he passed on, with the injunction, "You'll care for and love this one, I know." We called it "Dawn." It is evidently of Argentea Splendida Variegata (old Silver Leaf) parentage, for it has the same style of growth and silver leaves. But the leaves are narrow, not rounded, and about the length of the small Rubra type. We were some dubious about this winter's effect on the little seedling and cuttings grown from it, but they have come through nicely and we are grateful.

So, as we stroll about our small garden, we are noting the number of old favorites that have come to us through the generosity and genuine kindness of heart of our old friend, Chauncey R. Vedder. And we feel that there must be many another in this city who is doing likewise, and feeling the same glow of remembrance.—Constance D. Bower.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

IRIS AND IRIS GARDENS

By Gertrude Dale Evans

(Editor's Note: The following is from a talk given by Mrs. Evans before the San Diego Floral Association.)

I am conscious of my temerity in speaking to this group of seasoned garden-makers, but I have been requested to talk for a few minutes about how I came to love the iris—my favorite flower.

No one can say this or that flower is the most beautiful, for to a large extent their beauty lies in the eyes of those who look on them and we all have different eyes. Perhaps it depends on our make-up, temperament, or former environment. I think I came to especially love them in Italy—in Florence. In a dark, narrow street we came to a florist's window filled with these gorgeous creatures—probably some of the glamor of the beautiful old city lay upon them. It was a blaze of beauty—a miracle—a poem! We thought never to see such beauty in flowers. Mr. Evans bought me a huge bunch of them,—among them, buds. I carried my prized armful home and the next morning we had the joy of watching some of them open. Even now, the sight of a group of them carries me back to that Florence window—to that happy day with my companion—they both seem with me. Perhaps that is the reason I love iris more than all the flowers. I never thought then that a garden would come into my life but we both said how wonderful it would be to have one and fill it with iris.

Europe—Florence especially prizes iris highly. One of the loveliest of the Florence crests is the iris. One sees it painted, engraved or embroidered on every conceivable article. One sees the iris in Paris particularly on the frescoes both inside and outside of the St. Chapelle. The robe of St. Louis for whom this exquisite jewel was built is sown with them.

Later, when I found myself a physical wreck and came home alone from Europe, I could no longer live in Boston or Europe. and sought this warmer climate. My first thought was a home to house my dreams and me. I found my present little house with its lovely view and the possibility of a garden and I said now is my chance to bring beauty out of a bit of sod and a ray of sunshine—to have my fill of iris and other flowers.

I first planned the setting of my house and its relation to the garden:

"My walls outside must have some flowers
My walls within must have some books,
A house that's small—a garden large—
And in it leafy nooks."

Yes, leafy nooks and seats with a background that invites to dreams and books and friendly talks with tea!

I put curtains at my windows for privacy, and, as I also wanted privacy in my out-of-door living room, I put a wall around it, tying it to the house—and there was my sanctuary! Are not the curtains and the wall the same idea—a shelter? People who think walls are selfish and undemocratic should not use curtains. However, it's all in custom and former environment as in a woman's dress, what she shall disclose, what cover.

Now for my iris. The best authorities here in San Diego said they would not grow here. I said, "I'll try them." I knew absolutely nothing about gardening but I took my courage with my two hands and began to try to bring out my idea of what a garden meant to me—not a place to walk about and admire beautiful flowers with never a seat to sit down in and talk and enjoy and look—a place to live in—eat in—read and work in—and to share with one's friends.

I began my iris planting with the ever green ones in my court. I had thirty-six kinds—about two hundred and sixty. I wanted them near me but they didn't like my wall as some people didn't. There wasn't enough sunshine, not enough drainage. They gave me leaves but no blooms. They love the sun. They like it on their backs as our girls did last summer so I had to make beds in my canyon and move them to more sunny quarters.

Now let me tell of some of the advantages of this flower. We all know how constantly we fight against snails and slugs who, I think, have become very wise to our poisons as these poisons seem to have so little effect on their constitutions. I've never had to worry about my iris. They are never eaten and the snails do not even roost in them as they do in similar foliage, which is a great relief. Another advantage is that while they like water if drainage is good, they do not die if the boy forgets occasionally to water them, or even for a long time. They endure neglect. The few I have retained in the court in a sunny bed are watered daily with the other flowers. They love it and give me the most blooms, greatest height, and largest rhizomes. By the way, do not scorn the small rhizome—some of them give the best results. I water c,ultivate, give lime and bonemeal occasionally to the iris in my canyon, and they give me results. "If little labor, little are our gains."

The only time my iris ever sulked was when the devastating sewer was run through my canyon. One bed was covered with tons of earth for over a month. I thought they had decided

(Continued on Page 14)

The California Garden

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EDITORIAL

FLOWER SHOWS

April again brings us the culmination of our year's achievement in the garden. Roses planted twelve months ago have now reached their prime. New varieties and types of other garden subjects at last reward us for months of patient, hopeful and loving care. No end of frantic lamentation or supplication will now restore full vigor and beauty to neglected garden flowers for show purposes. Too often visitors to shows who are not garden conscious fail to realize the true value of such exhibits. Their true worth is measured not by their momentary flash of splendor, but rather by the exhibitor's individual sense of satisfaction and pride at the reward the well-cared for plant has bestowed on its benefactor. Note the faces flushed with happiness and smug satisfaction as they eagerly and earnestly give detailed account of their entries' virtues. And who ever dares criticize their cherished pets is regarded with derision and contempt. In vain we look for the merits of some flower, existing only in its champion's mind. Quickly we pass on before they press us to confirm their biased opinion which we hardly dare to do or not to do. As beautiful as the colorful displays may be they cannot equal for a moment the beauty of that sublime devotion of the exhibitors to their own precious proteges. Then, too, it is at such exhibits that inspiration and guidance is received for the next year's efforts. Those who love the beauty of flowers, but deny themselves the pleasure of growing and exhibiting them, have never in reality seen their fullest glory.

CURRENT EVENTS

Chula Vista Spring Flower Show will be held Saturday and Sunday, April 19-20 at the Chula Vista Women's Club House. Chairman, Mrs. C. W. Darling.

Coronado Spring Flower Show will be held Saturday and Sunday, April 12-13 in park opposite Coronado Public Library. Chairman, Harold A. Taylor.

Southern California Spring Flower Show, sponsored by Pasadena Horticultural Association) will be held at Pasadena, April 16, 17, 18, 19. Secretary, Ernest C. Pfadenhauer, 2076 N. Raymond Avenue, Pasadena, Calif.

Spring Regional Rose Conference of American Rose Society, Cafe Samovar, corner Fair Oaks and Monterey Road, Pasadena, California, April 16th, Wednesday, 6:30 p. m. Chairman, Forrest L. Hieatt, Box 865, San Diego, California.

SAN DIEGO SEEDLING BEGONIAS

This is to be considered as a boost for San Diego products!

What other part of the country can boast of the same number of new varieties of begonias produced in the same period of time, say, the past ten years? None.

Just think of the quantity of lovely seedlings the Robinsons have introduced. And then there are the several beauties brought out by Mrs. Gray at Bird Rock. The Waites introduced a number of fine new begonias that we are enjoying. Then, there are the beautiful seedlings that Mr. Vedder left for us. The Grants, Miss Sessions, Mrs. Pease and others have, too, presented us with splendid new seedling begonias that will probably finally be distributed far and near.

So we say with pride, "Haven't we San Diegans done things with begonias?"—C.D.B.

FLOWER SHOW PLANS AT RANCHO SANTA FE

By Ruth R. Nelson

With the hills at Rancho Santa Fe looking greener every day, and even the rose bushes coming to life in our gardens, it is not surprising to hear frequent questions regarding our spring flower show.

For three years the fascinating display of Dr. Sprague's seedling gladiolus has attracted hundreds of visitors to the ranch at flower show time. This year growing experience, an organized Park Board, and with several local nurseries for professional backing, we are lead to believe we shall surpass all our previous efforts to make this an interesting event. A date will be set which will allow the many amateur rose enthusiasts of the ranch to display more satisfactorily than was possible last year.

We also hope to be represented again this year by a school wildflower display at the Floral Association's show in April. The children have been making a special study of many plants still to be found on the ranch, which are associated with the Indians and the early days of the ranch. Just what is being worked out by them from this study they are keeping secret. Last year, to encourage wildflower conservation, and encourage the project of this display the P. T. A. gave prizes at their benefit Caravan luncheon, of Fraser and Son's wildflower collections. These seeds have all been planted and are making a splendid growth.

GARDEN DISPLAYS

One of the most interesting departments of the coming Flower Show is the "Garden Display."

In no other department is there the scope for real individuality, or the chance to show what you can have in your garden—whether large or small.

So plan to enter a specimen of everything you grow, blossom, shrub, or tree.

Please furnish as many containers for same as possible, and telephone for space you require to Miss Sinclair, Bayview 0202, or ot Mrs. Geo. W. Gardner, Bayview 0346-M.

The regular monthly meeting of the San Diego Floral Association will be held Tuesday evening, April 15th, at 7:30 o'clock in the Floral Building, in Balboa Park. Miss K. O. Sessions has kindly consented to talk to the members on "Seasonal Planting."

There will be a distribution of poinsettia cuttings and chrysanthemums at the close of the meeting.

Refreshments will be served by the House Committee.

PLANTS WALK

We humans consider ourselves top-notch walkers or travelers, while, if we would only stop to note what is going on in the traveling line in plant life, we would be surprised. We, of course, know how seeds are moved about by birds, wind, etc., but plants move in another way.

Mother currant bush, deciding it time to move on, carefully bends a branch to the ground and there it takes root. finally becoming another mother plant.

Old friend strawberry, white clover, Wandering Jew, and many grasses walk (run, our gardener will say) in all directions. Suckers from bushes and trees are travelers, too. Some plants fairly jump from spot to spot. Take, for instance, the Bermuda weed which drops its fatty, scalloped leaves, each scallop to form a tiny plant.

Tulips are noted walkers. When planted in cold, shady places, they slowly but surely walk towards a sunny spot. The old bulb does not do it, but sends out a tiny shoot, horizontally, beneath the ground. Near its tip a swelling takes place; later to be a tulip bulb. If the sunny spot toward which the youngster is headed unexpectedly be shaded, the turning signal is given.

The curious and dainty walking ferns object to "captivity." In the wild, shady nooks this is their method of locomotion:

A bud forms at the tip of the frond and develops a cluster of fronds and roots, meanwhile swinging in the air. The weight of this tip-plant, especially when wet, causes the main frond to touch the earth. There it takes root. In this manner the ferns spread, each frond linked to another, like children playing a game with joined hands.—C. D. B.

SAN DIEGO WEATHER DURING APRIL

By Dean Blake

April is the month of showers, and not of heavy, prolonged rains. Only once since the record began in 1850 has the monthly total exceeded three inches. Windstorms and squally, blustery days are unknown.

Higher temperatures in the great interior valleys induce an indraft of cool, moist air from the Pacific Ocean, and cloudiness increases along the coast. Occasionally hot winds occur, when temperatures over 80 and even 90 degrees are recorded, and the relative humidity drops as low as 10 or 15 per cent. These spells seldom last for more than a day or two.

The average rainfall is 0.67 inch. There has never been an April without rain. The season of low temperatures is past, so frost never occurs in the city.

CRASSULA
By Eric Walther

(Reprinted from The Journal of The Cactus and Succulent Society of America. Vol. I, No. 7, p. 131-134, Jan. 1930.)

Of the many and varied genera constituting the family Crassulaceae, by no means the least interesting is Crassula proper. While no doubt many of its species are not particularly showy in flower, nor exceptionally attractive in form and habit, there are nevertheless quite a few, such as the well known C. falcata, that possess what are easily among the most brilliantly colored flowers, not only of this, but of most other families of flowering plants as well. Even if the other species now grown here fall behind the above-mentioned in merit, it by no means follows that all the potentialities of the genus have hence been exhausted, as the 18 or more species and varieties now present here in our local collections are only a very small portion of the total of about 300 species known to science, or of the 248 said to be native at the Cape. It would seem that quite a few of these others should be fully as desirable as the ones now grown in our gardens; and it is really difficult to account for the apparent neglect of this genus by our otherwise so enterprising collectors. As long ago as 1812 Haworth described 38 species, probably all from cultivated material; and while 99 species are credited to South Africa by Harvey in 1862, only 34 are enumerated by Berger as growing at La Mortola in 1912. Considering the ease with which most of the species can be grown and propagated here, this state of things is both a reproach and a challenge to our local plant-introducers, whose interest and activity these lines are intended to arouse. Without entering here into any lengthy discourse, a few remarks on the kinds now grown in our gardens may be appropriate.

The above-mentioned C. falcata is far too well known to require any extended discussion, its glowing orange-scarlet flowers are far too brightly colored to escape attention; coupled with the curiously twisted, greyish leaves, they serve to make this species not only an item of interest, but a striking ornament of any collection.

Another showy species, provisionally identified as C. impressa, forms dense, low tufts of reddish-green foliage crowned in summer by masses of deep red flowers. In the past this has gone under various names in our gardens, masquerading most often perhaps under the name C. cooperi, but the true species of that name has white flowers and red-dotted leaves; it is now also in cultivation here. The plant in question has also been called C. rubicunda; it was originally introduced under that name from South Africa, and later placed on the market as C. schmidti, to which name the "Index Kewensis" still refers C. impressa N. E. Br. The true C. rubicunda grows much taller, reaching a height of about 1 foot or so, has recurved leaves, and does not seem to be in cultivation here as yet.

A quite distinct plant is C. rosularis, with all its leaves in a basal rosette, crowded spirally rather than borne in the usual distant, opposite pairs. Its flowers, small and whitish, are fragrant and have the additional merit of being produced during the winter months. Of quite different habit are C. multicava and C. spathulata, with trailing stems and distinctly stalked leaves. The former is the subject of our illustration and is remarkable both on account of the abnormally 4-parted flowers and the fact that bulbils are often borne on the inflorescence. It is perhaps better known as C. quadrifida, but Lemaire's name seems to antedate Baker's. C. spathulata often is misnamed C. cordata, but the latter's leaves are truly heart-shaped. It has only quite recently been introduced by our friend Orpet of Santa Barbara.

Another commonly grown species is C. lycopodioides, the name referring to its resemblance to a clubmoss or Lycopodium. Its variety pseudolycopodioides is also met with frequently, but really, it almost seems that the author of that fearful name must have had a grievance against the poor little thing, to burden it with such an unwieldly and unpronouncable appelation. Mention may also be made of the curious C. perfossa ,with its truly connate leaves threaded on the slender, trailing stems like buttons on a string. Equally queer looking, even if in quite a different style, is C. perfoliata, recently becoming more widely distributed in our collections. This is a near relative of the showy C. falcata, with the same fine, grey down on the leaves, but the latter are quite straight, channelled above, superposed in four vertical ranks, and its flowers are often quite insignificant. Of the various names wrongly applied locally to the last species the most common are perhaps C. gigantea and C. longifolia. C. arborescens and C. portulacea are stout shrubs, the latter of which closely resembles the much more tender Portulacaria afra; to this similarity the name may be due.

C. tetragona is another species often seen in our gardens, and is remarkable not only with which every piece breaking off takes root, but also because it has been longer in cultivation probably than any other species, on account of its striking habit, or the ease since the date of its original introduction to Europe is said to have been 1711.

(Continued on Page 12)

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

LATH HOUSE MATTERS

By Alfred D. Robinson

Something more than a year ago, my oldest daughter and a friend of hers, not mine, took me to see "The Wages of Sin" so that they might enjoy my crying over the tribulations of the righteous man who made one false move as portrayed by a poker-faced chap named Janis, I believe. The girls got what they sought for I weep easily over the woes of others while grinning at my own and when I dried off, I carried as the central picture the old man with a pointed stick retrieving stray bits of paper which he pouched in a gunny sack. The mills of the Gods were grinding, and when months later my back rebelled at the constant stooping necessary to pick up fallen leaves in my lathhouse I remembered the sinful one gathering papers, and got me a sharpened stick, this as with the golfer and his clubs, I have changed and modified till it is now perfectly efficient, a balanced tool ready to the hand. A length of small bamboo, some four feet, carries at its end a piece of copper wire, sharpened to a keen point and offset just back of the point; with this I now spear at my ease even the most elusive leaf and the offset holds it as I make the upward swing. I have become most expert, I know just where to insert the point and the degree of pressure required for the old or the young, the tough and the tender. I call it Lathhouse Golf and every morning I blithely make a round. I am now considering a costume and lean towards knee pants of Begonia rose with green stockings with clocks of pendant blue lobelia. In all solemnity, deepened by the golf idea, I think it very essential to gather fallen leaves, they must be a fruitful source of trouble from bug and fungus. I believe I have before many times aired the idea that with our evergreen complex we build sanitariums and nurseries for our pests.

For some months I have been restraining you from too much activity in your lathhouse but now all **"Don'ts"** are off and you can **do** anything and should do everything. Move your plants if you desire; put in new ones and make cuttings. While on the cutting subject, I strongly advise that however vigorous your Begonia, always have one or two cuttings coming along, these can be inserted in the ground at the base of your plant. Make them of new wood, not the soft but the new, old wood takes much longer to root and never makes so good a plant. If you have doubts about a cutting growing, layer a shoot. The reason I urge this matter is because most Begonias are short lived as compared with ordinary garden shrubs and when they want to die they do so, quickly and very completely, a dead Begonia can be so very dead. A very painful case of this is those two glorious winter bloomers, now the finest I have ever seen them, Jessie and Templini. Quite often folks complain of these two quitting while at their very finest and ask for an explanation, "What do you think was the matter?" say they. I am sympathetic and mystified aloud, but interiorly I want to answer, the same heart disease that killed the old chap of one hundred and one. I never knew either of these Begonias to live more than a few years. However the chief "Die-young" is of course one of the most beautiful, Marjorie Daw. I am dwelling on this phase of Begonia peculiarity just to be able to say, "What right have we to expect a Begonia to live forever?" You don't ask it of more than half the things you plant in your garden. It is true that I have trees of Coralline Lucerne and President Carnot over twenty years old, but they show their years, there is an almost indecent exposure of stem and branch, like withered old legs and arms.

The Wisteria is coming out fast, that last wonderful rain was just what it wanted and since I have given up chickens the blooming sparrows have deserted, of course there are a few sneaking around but the bulk of them know that no longer is there a free lunch spread in the chicken pens. Still the bits of rabbit fur that proved so effective a scarecrow, hang up, and visitors continue to speculate on the why and wherefore. Some day I want a nice pool under a pergola and a wisteria. Of course a few water plants, but beside, not in the pool, a goldfish or so and a seat one can sit on without freezing, God protect me from these stone benches either natural or artificial. Yes! Friends, I have heard of the wisteria at Sierra Madre, sixteen million times. This to save you trouble should you come out to see mine.

The slugs seem to be coming out of the nursery. I am frequently embarrassed by observing a half-fledged one on a pot I am handing to a beauteous lady. Has any one tried this other Borgia feed, not Snarol, said to be more enticing to the shell-less sort of crawler.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

I knew a dear old lady who claimed fleas did not bite her because she would never kill one. Would not that be fine if it worked on garden pests, but I fear all my plants would be eaten up before the vermin got wise to the fact that I was their real truly friend.

Those Government inspectors from Washington have just been round to enquire after the health and possible progeny of those tubers I got from England three years ago. These pleasant visits are the main reward for all the grief that importation caused me. I showed them what was left and told them the story and I am glad to say they expressed belief that I was doing my darnedest. I feel that these Inspectors, most inspectors, are not looking for trouble, they are praying they won't find it, they act so happy when they can put in those little black loose-leaf books "ALL'S WELL and a fine day." These two admitted I was a very small potato and they just called because I happened to be in the way as they journeyed to large commercial plantings. I hardly liked to be told so plainly where I stepped off, but I had to grin and take it.

My glasshouse is presenting a problem, the whitewash has been washed away by the rain and the sunlight through the glass is now too strong when the sun shines. If I whitewash again right away I shall be too dark if our usual foggy weather comes along in May. I am compromising by putting up cloth that I can roll back and forth. I also perceive a tendency to dryness unless paths and walls get a daily sprinkling. This wants to be done early in the day so that it does not have a tendency to cool towards night. Nights are warming up, reaching fifty quite often, but they will have to go to sixty for a real Begonia temperature.

I cannot write you more this month as I am full of a big change in my lathhouse involving more red rock, lots of it with terraces, walls and the like. The plan is on the lid of a dress box from Marstons and every night I play with it, a pencil and eraser. My one part-time man says he wishes it were all done, but I am sure he has the wrong slant for when it is done I must think up something else to do.

CARRIZO GRASS

Fidella G. Woodcock

San Diego Natural History Museum.

In reply to inquiries at the Botany Department of the Natural History Museum as to the name and nature of the common reed grass growing in the marshes of Carrizo Gorge, and at varying altitudes along the creek from Julian to the Imperial Border, the most simple description that I can give of it is its diagnosis as a native grass of the fescue family.

The fescue is a close-growing meadow grass, that is causing the death of so many of our native wild flowers. **Phragmites communis** is a giant fescue known as the California Native Reed. It is a perennial reed forming matted, spreading roots over low wet lands from which in growth it absorbs fresh water, drying out the pools and ditches throughout the temperate regions of the world. The blades are broad and flat, subject to **Scirrhia rimosa,** a parasitic semi-aquatic fungus of the higher order. The flowers are sometimes infested with the brand-spores, the winter, resting spores of the Brand-Fungi, a rust producing a burnt appearance in the host-plant which is often destroyed. First it comes as a slimy mass which when mature becomes a black dust—the usual cause of "Smut" on cereals.

The type species of **Arundo phragmites** and, too, of **Arundo donax** its nearest relative in Asia has spread into the South of Europe. But while the last named is a local species only, introduced as an ornamental in tropical countries where with its variegated form it grows very luxuriantly, **Arundo phragmites** is cosmopolitan, that is scattered locally, a native plant in many countries wherever there are extensive marsh-lands, and is the type species of Arundos, or Reed-grasses. It grows mostly in hedges for which reason its name has been changed to **Phragmites communis,** Common Reed.

The third species of Arundo is in Argentina, while one other called **Arundo conspicua** is a handsome garden subject from New Zealand.

Under cultivation **Phragmites communis** known in California and Mexico as Carrizo Grass, is in horticulture a very showy plumed grass, called spire-grass. Its leaves are sometimes variegated and quite broad and the panicles of feathery, drooping flowers are attractive late in the summer season.

From California Garden, March, 1924:

If this were my last day I'm almost sure
I'd spend it working in my garden. I
Would dig around my little plants and try
To make them happy, so they would endure
Long after me. Then I would hide secure
Where my green arbor shades me from the sky,
And watch how bee and bird and butterfly
Came hovering to every flowery lure.
Then, as I rested, perhaps a friend or two,
Lovers of flowers, would come, and we would walk
About my little garden paths, and talk
Of peaceful times when all the world seemed true.
This may be my last day for all I know:
What a temptation just to spend it so!

GARDEN PROBLEMS

By Walter S. Merrill

All those who build new homes in Southern California cities are immediately confronted with one problem, which, despite its importance, is seldom solved with any new solution that is satisfactory. This problem is the eternal question as to how the "parking strip," so called, is to be treated. I do not recall that this narrow ribbon of unpaved ground receives such consideration in eastern cities and towns. There, the usual strip of grass lawn under properly spaced shade trees seems to answer all desires. But in California our people yearn for something better,—or at least for something novel,—and all sorts of effects, good, bad and indifferent, result.

I am very sorry that I cannot offer you an idea, new and surprising,—something that will correspond with the new and almost startling effects of many of our houses. However, perhaps it is fortunate that these little strips of land, that must have something done to them, do not give scope for the "originality" of so many designers. Lack of space and money many times holds in check our architects who specialize in "Spanish-American" architecture, with the result that the simple homes they make are lovely. It is only when they are given free rein, with plenty of money to spend, that they produce those queer would-be castles, all stuck over with towers, cupolas and gables. With a strip of land two feet wide and a hundred long, little that is very bad can be achieved.

Parking strips are laid out by sub-dividers in three ways. Allowing eight feet, say, between street curb and property line, the four-foot paved walk may be either in the center, with two feet on either side; or next to the curb, with the unpaved portion adjacent to the private property; or next to the property line, leaving the four foot strip between the sidewalk and the curb. Perhaps there are advantages in all of these three ways. Personally, I agree with Miss Sessions that the paved walk should be next to the curb. This method adds the space to be planted to the private property, making possible a wider lawn or shrubbery bed and so a better setting for the house. Likewise, the street appears wider, which is good. Then, too, it does away with shrub and shade-tree planting between the sidewalk and street, a planting which must of necessity hide approaching motor cars and trucks from pedestrians and from children at play.

However they are laid out, I feel that the best method of planting the parking strip is the old one of lawn and shade-trees. Make the lawn of the same thing as the lawn in front of the house,—provided there is one,—and keep it always in good condition. Plant your trees, not for the effect now or in six months, or in six years, but for the future. And put in what will make real shade trees; live oaks, peppers, sycamores, or long-lived pines or cypress. Do this and take care of them properly after correct planting, and your children and your children's children will call you blessed. Next best after real shade trees are palms—cocus plumosa preferably, or one of the Washingtonias if there is room. Whatever you plant in the way of trees, be very careful to allow ample space, so that they will not be crowded when they reach mature growth.

But there are certain people who have no lawn in front of their houses. They of course will not have lawn in the parking strip, but will fill in between the trees with gravel or crushed rock,—disintegrated granite is best for this. This is very grateful to the eye when well packed, cleanly raked and free from weeds.

To many, the labor of weeding, mowing and edge-trimming a lawn strip is out of proportion to the results obtained. And yet they do not care for gravel. For such people there are many ground covers that will lessen labor and be very effective. Naming only a few of these, I will suggest lippia repens, English Ivy, ornamental strawberry (either white or yellow flowered), vinca major if there be enough shade, or even some of the hardier varieties of sedum. But beware of the brilliant flowered ground covers such as abronia umbellata, the gazanias, or the orange or magenta flowered mesembryanthemum. Keep to the cool soft greens, unless a planting scheme for the whole street has been planned. Then do as your neighbors do, and trust for the best.

When a high wall on the propery line encloses the garden, a more elaborate planting, against this wall, is often successful. Mrs. Herbert Evans has a mixed planting of annuals, perennials and roses massed against her high stucco wall, with very pleasing effect. The Misses Schwieder have planted large and small aloes in the inner parking strip, against a stuc-

co wall, with such delightful result that last year they were awarded first prize for the best treatment of a parking strip. The most elaborate planting that I have seen in San Diego,—and it is exceedingly good,—is a long narrow rock-garden of cacti and succulents against a cement retaining-wall, on the south side of Sierra Vista Street, opposite Miss Brock's cactus garden. In just that location, nothing could be more appropriate and satisfying.

But I still advise you to plant shade-trees for the good of future generations, with turf or gravel underneath.

CHINESE CURRANT

Some years ago we purchased a small plant called Chinese Currant and were told it would make a tree-like shrub bearing edible currants, of which I was given a sample. The second year it bore some fruit. Miss Sessions named the shrub Eleagenus Longipies—a variety she had long known but had never before seen the currants. Mr. McLean has twice taken branches for exhibit at the State Fair at 'Frisco. Last year I was highly pleased when he told me it aided materially in gaining the Sweepstakes for San Diego County in Tropical and Subtropical fruits.

The tree is now in full bloom; so fragrant one gets the odor 20 feet away; so spicy and appealing one cannot get enough. By experimenting I found the fruit comes on the second year growth, though the knowledge cost me almost all one year's fruit. It is delicious as a fresh fruit, makes lovely pies and tastes almost identically like the regulation currants we had "back East" which refuse to grow in San Diego soil and sunshine. They are a little more seedy, but are good keepers, and will hang on the tree almost indefinitely. I left one very large bunch last year hoping to keep it until Christmas, but some kind unknown friend evidently thought I had forgotten them and proceeded to rectify my mistake? This year I shall try again, along with a "Sold" sign.

Why isn't this tree grown extensively? If one didn't care for the fruit, the tree itself is a good shape, beautiful gray-green leaves, needs no especial care, is drought resistant, and seems so well adapted to our climate in every way.—Mrs. W. S. Thomas.

NEW MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS FOR APRIL

Mrs. Rose Wilson, Whittier, Calif.
Mrs. Chas. H. Crocker, Santa Barbara, Calif.
Mrs. E. L. Farmer, San Gabriel, Calif.
Mrs. C. S. Farnsworth, Altadena.
W. H. Benson, Oakland, Calif.
Mrs. R. A. Urquhart, Stanford University, Cal.
Miss Katharine Archibald, San Diego, Calif.
Miss Carrie Mitchell, San Diego, Calif.

CRASSULA

(Continued from Page 8)

The extremely showy Rochea coccinea is nowadays separated from Crassula in its narrower sense, since the petals are distinctly coherent to above the middle. It has long been known as a Crassula, and the exact delimitation of the various genera of this family will in any case always remain a matter both difficult and disputable.

The striking brilliancy of its bright red flowers is due to the peculiar structure of the epidermal cells of the petals. These are transparent at the apex, permitting the light to enter; their interior is filled with colored sap, within which the rays of light are reflected back and forth several times, to be finally focused on the apical point, causing this last to appear almost burning red. The resultant intensive coloration makes this one of the most brilliantly colored succulents when in flower. The plant thrives in all our coastal districts not too hot and dry and reasonably free from heavy frosts. It should be grown much more widely than it is now, and deserves serious consideration by our florists as a pot-plant.

Of the many further species still awaiting introduction a number are known to us from the available illustrations (see the references quoted), and a few of the more striking ones may here be singled out for mention. The most remarkable species are easily C. alstoni, C. barbata, C. columnaris, C. hemisphaerica, C. mesembrianthemopsis, C. pyramidalis and C. turrita. All of these represent various adaptations to the long periods of extreme drought occurring in the different parts of the Cape and Southwest Africa. Not only do they illustrate the remarkable flexibility a single genus may exhibit in regards to external form, Crassula having perhaps no rival in this respect in South Africa except for Mesembrianthemum, but they also demonstrate clearly that the form of the vegetative organs is often no indication whatever of relationship, depending primarily on climatic, edaphic and other outside influences. Totally different in appearance from the above is C. saxifraga, which combines the flowers of Crassula with the habit and foliage of a saxifrage of the Section Bergenia, as exemplified by the well known S. stracheyi or St. Patrick's cabbage. Many more items could be quoted, but enough should have been said to substantiate the claim of the genus Crassula for more serious attention by our plant-collectors.

Recently quite a number of species new to our gardens have been introduced, including several of the things mentioned above, by Mr. Wm. Hertrich of the Huntington Botanic Gardens, Mr. Beecroft of Escondido, as well as others. Until this new material flowers, its exact identification will not be possible, and

it is therefore for the present disregarded in the appended key. As an illustration of the confusion attending the subject, mention may be made of one new introduction, i. e., Crassula (?) adgavensis. There does not seem to be any such thing in the "Index Kiwensis," but there is a C. andegavensis, which is referred to Sedum. There are at least three species closely resembling a Mesembrianthemum in general appearance, and named accordingly C. mesembrianthoides, C. mesembrianthemopsis and C. mesembrianthemoides, one of which is said to be here now, a better illustration of how not to name plants would be hard to find. Another novel species has just flowered for the first time with our Mr. Willis, remarkable by reason of its conspicuously papillose leaves. It comes closest to the C. margartiifera of the "Flora Capensis," but does not quite agree, and Mr. N. E. Brown himself has been asked to pass on the question. Another species just flowering for the first time is C. elata Dinter. seen in Mr. Weinberg's collection, and agreeing very well with Dinter's photo.

Culture is so simple that a few words should suffice. A few of the species are only doubtfully hardy, at least in the northern part of the State, and need at least partial protection during the winter, such as is furnished by a sheltering wall, an overhanging branch or a partial elevation above the general ground-level. Just as most of the Crassulaceae, so does Crassula also appreciate ample moisture at the roots, at least during the growing season. Propagation is easy, most species rooting readily from stem, or even leaf-cuttings, and only C. rosularis is perhaps better grown from seed. Aside from Nematode about the only serious pest is Mealy-bug, best controlled by use of one of the various oil-sprays on the market. Care should be taken not to use too strong an emulsion, as Crassula, like most succulents, is easily injured by oil sprays, and repeated applications of a weak dose will have to be depended upon for results. C. falcata suffers at times from what seems to be a fungous affection, apparently not mentioned in any available literature.

The name Crassula is derived from the Latin and means thick, referring to the thick and fleshy leaves. The genus belongs to the Crassulaceae, giving the name to the family of which it is probably the most primitive member. Its closest affinity is with Tillaea, a widely distributed genus perhaps scarcely distinct from it. Other near relations are Rochea and Grammanthes, both with coherent petals; Macrosepalum with alternate leaves and sepals that are longer than the petals; and Sedum, with twice as many stamens as there are petals. Crassula itself is almost wholly South African, being one of the many succulent xerophytes so characteristic of the rich Cape-flora. The generic characters may be summaried as follows:

Crassula L. A genus of about 300 species, almost wholly South African; herbaceous, subshrubby or shrubby; leaves mostly opposite, very rarely in a basal rosette, usually sessile, more rarely stalked, often connate at base, smooth, or finely downy, or ciliate at edges, often dotted, sometimes scale-like and imbricated; flowers with usually 5, very rarely 4 petals that are free to the base or nearly so; sepals shorter than the petals; carpels free, as many as the petals.

Species of Crassula Grown in California

arborescens Willd.
bolusi Hook. J. D.—**C. cooperi** Regel.
centauroides L. (C. marginalis Ait.)
coccinea L.—**Rochea coccinea** DC.
cordata Soland. (C. spathulata Hort., not Thunbg.)
elata N. E. Brown.
falcata Willd. (Rochea falcata DC.)
impressa N. E. Br. (C. schmidti Regel, C. cooperi Hort., not Regel, C. rubicunda Hort., not E. Mey.)
lactea Soland.
lycopodioides Lam.
—var. **pseudolycopodioides** Dinter & Schinz.
—var. **viridis** Berger (?)
marginalis Soland—**C. centauroides** L.
monticola N. E. Br. (?)
multicava Lemaire. (C. quadrifida Baker.)
obvallata L. (C. dejecta Hort. not Jacq.)
perfoliata L. (C. longifolia Hort., C. gigantea Hort.)
perfossa Lam.
portulacea Lam.
quadrifida Baker —**C. multicava** Lemaire.
rosularis Haw.
schmidti Regel—**C. impressa** N. E. Brown.
spathulata Thunbg. (C. cordata Hort., not Soland.)
tetragona L.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GARDENING

BY EDNA BETTS TRASK

A Book for Amateurs, written in simple language, giving explicit directions for planting in this section of the State. Price $1.25. Publisher:

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IRIS

(Continued from Page 5)

it was no use to go on living but when finally uncovered they all recovered but gave me few blooms and poor rhizomes.

The third advantage is that they do not have to be sprayed or trimmed or fertilized as roses and dahlias do, and do not rust or have mildew or bugs. You do not have to dig them up every year and remake bed as every third year is sufficient except in the case of those with very large rhizomes. Still another advantage is that they increase so rapidly that we have something to share with our friends.

Some consider it a disadvantage that the iris blooms but once a year and some not for a long time. But doesn't this long waiting make them more precious? We all know the bore who, wishing to kill time, robs you of yours. We all know the busy people, the worth-while people who rarely can visit and when they do, what a feast they give us! Isn't it so with iris?

Almost all mine are the bearded—I have only two beardless. The Spurias are lovely especially the white Ochroleucra and that happy friend Morea, which pops out a blossom almost any moment any time of year.

In my short experience I find that the San Gabriel suits this climate best, more prolific in blooms and growth, some of them being nearly six feet tall and their blooming season is longest of any, nearly three months. Four clumps in 1929 gave me 155 flowers—in 1928, 110 flowers of pinkish lavender. The Avalons are exquisite too and of about the same shade. An endless list of aristocrats: Leverrier, Mesopotamica, J. J. Dean, Santa Barbara, and the cheerful yellows, Shekinah, Virginia Moore, Primavera, hard to choose between. Dealers say you can plant them nine inches apart, but it isn't enough. Thirteen or fourteen inches is the closest if you wish to cultivate. San Gabriels with their large rhizomes would do better two feet apart.

I label mine in spite of its being considered inartistic and bad taste as they are my friends and I want to call them by name. I wish I could label people, too.

The best time to replant and separate the rhizomes is immediately after the blooming is over but you can do it any time you wish. They will keep a long time out of the soil if dry. If you wish to exhibit them remember they are poor travelers. They are like the French—they like to stay at home. Cut them in bud—some say, the night before but I find they like to open at dawn. It's a wonderful thing to watch one unfolding but a sad thing if you wish to get a perfect bloom to an exhibition, especially the very tall ones. On the exhibition table they like plenty of room to stretch their wings and to be individually admired. I'm quite sure I've seen signs of this loving appreciation.

Do not think I do not love all flowers for I do. I overcrowd my tiny garden but—you know, most mothers have a favorite child!

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CULTURE OF CHRYSANTHEMUMS

By Mrs. E. J. Daley

Chrysanthemums are one of the loveliest fall flowering plants and one of the most neglected in San Diego gardens. Nothing rewards the grower so much as a little attention and time given these plants. Some wonderful specimens are shown us every year at the mum show, grown by Mr. Erskine Campbell of Point Loma, proving that they can be grown to perfection in San Diego.

There are many kinds and classes of these flowers. They can be had eight and ten inches across on a stem six feel tall, or less than one inch, a thousand on a single bush. They are all lovely, and require far less care than we give roses, dahlias or many other things. They can be roughly grouped as exhibition types, commercials, novelty buttons, garden varieties. All have their uses, and no flower keeps better after being cut.

The exhibition and commercial varieties can only be grown to perfection under muslin and they require a lot of attention and care. But what a pleasure that work is when the flower

is perfect. The buttons and pompons can be grown very easily, by giving them ordinary garden soil, plenty of water and sunshine, staking up before the blooms appear.

There are a great many novelty types. Some very unique ones, not really beautiful but very interesting to grow. Some have their twisted petals very shaggy and irregular, others, single broad petals with large tufted centers. These are called anemone types. Some of the larger sorts can be disbudded leaving only one bud to a stem and the resulting flowers are large enough for any ordinary home use.

All chrysanthemums are gross feeders and the ground in which they are to be planted should be enriched with well rotted barnyard fertilizer and thoroughly worked some time before planting.

For ordinary garden use they can be planted any time from April until July. Two different plantings are recommended for early and later bloom. Plants rooted from soft wood taken new each year, give the best results. When first set out do not encourage extensive growth by too much fertilizing and watering. Water only enough to sustain life. About the first of August liquid fertilizer can be given and plenty of water.

For exhibition use, later planting is better, then only one breaking back or stopping is necessary.

Good pompon varieties are "Lillian Doty" light pink, "White Doty" pure white, "Golden Ball" splendid yellow, "Claret" dark red, "New York" good bronze, "Tokio" golden yellow, late, splendid for Thanksgiving, and later, "Little Pet," rosy pink.

The singles are very lovely, having only a few large petals and golden yellow centers making them most artistic. "Lady Astor" bright red, "Golden Sun" all golden yellow, "Godfrey's Pink" lavender pink, extra large.

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No flower grown will reward the gardner greater joy, even if it be neglected, it will bloom when few others are to be had in our gardens. Nearly every color is represented; all shades of yellow, pink to red and wine shades, whites, and two-toned effects.

Try giving a few plants a little extra care and see how delightful you will be with the results.—CORRINNE ROCKWELL SWAIN.

FUNNY QUESTIONS

And the funniest part of it is, that they keep coming, semi-occasionally every little while.

1. Does not the rain bother the fish in a pool?

It is much like the splash of the water bothering a boy in swimming—and if some especially particular fish is timid he has only to stay an inch or two under water if he wishes serene calmness.

2. What are those little black ones, with the gold ones, and what variety is that white one?

Every baby gold fish is black; the Shebunbine turn color in about a week; other varieties in from one month to 2 years. Very rarely one never turns. Occasionally a large white one will turn red, or vice-versa.

3. Will it kill a fish to handle it?

It would be possible, if one injured the scales to any extent, or if kept out of water till its gills were dry. It would then be unable to breathe.

4. Why are they sometimes motionless?

They are taking a nap. Having no eyelids they cannot close their eyes and can only stop swimming, as a signal to you not to disturb their sleep. Fish make no distinction between day and night, swimming equally as much in darkness as in light as you can easily prove by turning a spot light on your pool or aquarium at any time of night.—Mrs. W. S. Thomas.

LANDSCAPE ADORNMENT

(Continued)

This recitation will begin with the experience of the writer with the Orchid: Cymbidium chloranthum, a native of Nepaul, a location on the south slope of the Himalaya Mountains; the principal valley is said to have a climate like Southern Europe.

Bailey quotes O. P. Orpet on the cultivation

of Cymbidiums as follows: "they may be grown in a temperature of 50 degrees, as a minimum in winter, must not be subjected to strong sunlight, after March, and never allowed to become dry at the roots, as they are more or less active, even in winter. Being terrestial, weak manure water may be applied during active growth."

In this case the departure from the orthodox cultural practice was so radical; the results so amazingly satisfactory, that the details of the work will be gone into minutely for the benefit of readers of these lines who may be led into a desire to grow this beauty, too, in their gardens. The plants used were large, well developed pseudobulbs. The location selected in the garden was in full sun, the soil a yellow clay. A hole three feet deep was dug and filled to within a foot of the surface with leaves, fine brush and other garden rubbish, which was tramped solid, and covered with a foot of fertile loam.

Upon this bed the plants were set and surrounded with the loam, then watered freely, and mulched with leaves to prevent evaporation of moisture. The foliage was about 18 inches long with black tips, showing distress.

January 1, 1927, a flower bud appeared and to say we were delighted is putting it very mildly.

The development of that bud was watched with as much care, and anxious anticipation as a mother awaits the day when her baby will take the first step in the pathway of life. Slowly, but surely it grew, and on June 1st, the first flower opened.

A whole month elapsed before the last bud of the twenty on the scape opened, and for a whole month those flowers retained their pristine beauty.

In 1928 a second bud appeared January 1st, and, like unto the first one, took six months to come to full fruition; the scape carrying 34 flowers, and now January 31st, 1930, four scapes appear on the club of healthy, vigorous plants.

Glory be! What will that plant look like when all the flowers are fully open. Illustrations of the flowers in books show them to be of narrow sepals and petals. Not so with those in the Wernigk garden. The petals are broad enough to clasp hands and form a salver shaped flower three inches in diameter. Re-read what Orpet says about sunlight. Anyone familiar with California sunlight during June and July well knows how brilliant it is. The temperature at times was so low that frost took the tops off all other tender plants in the garden.

Now this is a long story about one plant, but if the telling of it will fire the imagination, and arouse the enthusiasm of its readers, and be the means of introducing Cymbidium chloranthum into a hundred gardens of this Southland, the labor will not have been in vain. Armacost and Royston of Sawtelle, Calif., have plants in many sizes.—P. D. B.

PTERIS ARGYRAEA

A fern to be admired is Pteris Argyraea, with its tall growing, variegated fronds. Rather coarse, in texture, dark green, they are, with white bands through the pinnae centers. P. Argyraea has always grown best for us, planted directly in the lathhouse bed and not coaxed along in pots. It will grow from two to three feet high if well placed, and always causes pleased comment.

We might add that P. Argyraea is one of those garden pets that often thrives for a season or two and then disappointingly fades away—now you have it, and now you haven't! But one may invest again at a small price and enjoy its variegated beauty once more. So, we contend it is worth while.—C. D. B.

LIST OF SHRUBS CONTINUED

Owing to a lack of space the alphabetical list of trees and shrubs of Golden Gate Park will be continued in the May number of California Garden.—Assistant Editor.

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